

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

Work Group Co-Chairs:

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PCB Challenges

Canada

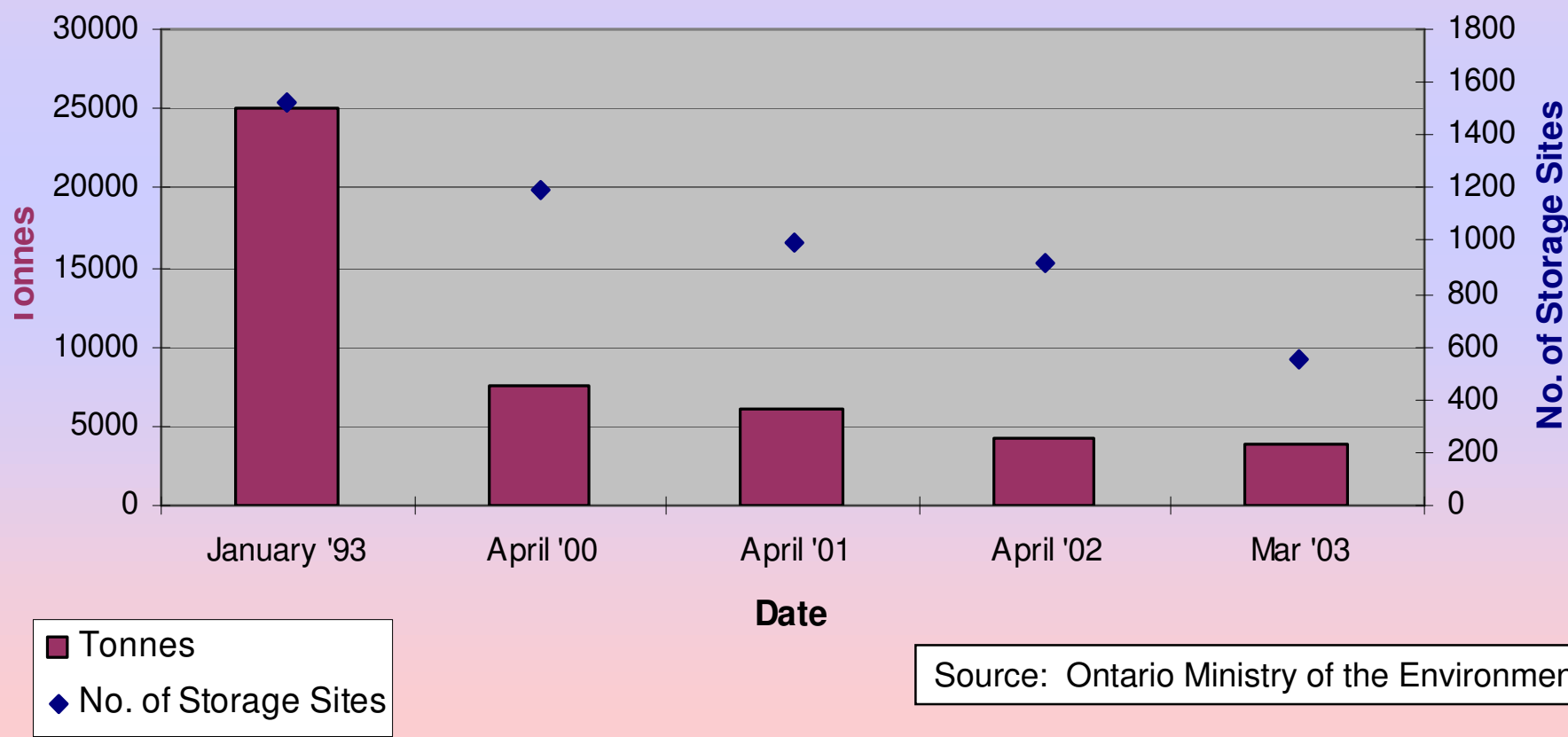
“Seek by 2000, a 90% reduction of high-level PCBs (>1% PCB) that were once, or are currently, in service and accelerate destruction of stored high-level PCB wastes which have the potential to enter the Great Lakes Basin, consistent with the 1994 COA.”

United States

“Seek by 2006, a 90% reduction nationally of high-level PCBs (>500 ppm) used in electrical equipment. Ensure that all PCBs retired from use are properly managed and disposed of to prevent releases within or to the Great Lakes Basin.”

Progress on the Canadian PCB Challenge (1993-2003)

High-Level PCBs and Number of Storage Sites in Ontario, Canada



Progress on the Canadian PCB Challenge (1994-2002)

High-Level PCBs Destroyed

- As of March 2003, approximately 86 percent of high-level PCB (Askarel >1%, 10,000 ppm) wastes had been destroyed in Ontario, up from approximately 40 percent in spring 1998
- Over the past two years, approximately 1,300 tonnes of high-level PCBs were destroyed
- As of April 2003, approximately 983 storage sites (both federal and private) were PCB-free (about 555 sites still remaining)

Progress on the U.S. PCB Challenge

PCB Disposal

- Compiled U.S. disposal data thru 2002
- At last update, about 113,000 PCB transformers and 1.3 million PCB capacitors remained in use in PCB equipment.
- The amount of PCB equipment remaining in use is likely less. Region 5 has contacted disposal companies estimate how much less.
- The recent time-average reported disposal rate of PCB transformers and capacitors is 10,000 and 20,000 per year, respectively, from 1994 and 2000.

Accomplishments Highlights: PCB Reduction Activities

(continuation of activities)

Workgroup Efforts

- **Re-update Workgroup Web Site**
- **Accelerating Phase-Out of PCB Transformers: The Business Case**
- **International Standards Organization (ISO) 14001 and PCBs**

**PCB Workgroup web site
www.epa.gov/glnpo/bns/pcb**

Research

- **Source Profiles and Emissions Quantification of PCBs to Ambient Air from Transformers**

Accomplishments Highlights: PCB Reduction Activities

U.S. Efforts

- **U.S. PCB Phase-out Projects (National, Regional)**
 - ♦ formal national program under development
 - ♦ Region 5 work involving Federal Facilities
 - ♦ Region 8 work involving mines
 - ♦ Region 9/10 work involving utilities
- **U.S. PCB Phase-Out at Federal Facilities**
 - ♦ Greening the Government Executive Order

Accomplishments Highlights: PCB Reduction Activities

Canadian Efforts

- **PCB Phase-Out Recognition Program in Ontario, Canada and Canadian Case Studies**
- **Canadian Great Lakes GLBTS PCB Newsletter**
- **First four Ontario companies:- Hydro One, Enersource (Mississauga) Hydro, Slater Steel and StelPipe Ltd received**
- **first PCB Reduction Awards**
- **2 companies: City of Thunder Bay (1st municipality) and Canadian Niagara Power received awards today**

Hydro One PCB Phase-Out Award



Accomplishments Overview

Regulatory Activities

■ U.S.

◆ RCRA

See *Federal Register* of July 30, 2003, final rule,
effective September 9, 2003

■ Canada

- ◆ Chlorobiphenyl Regulations
- ◆ Storage of PCB Material Regulations
- ◆ PCB Waste Export Regulations
- ◆ Federal Mobile PCB Treatment and Destruction Regulations

Revised regulations expected in the *Canada Gazette* in 2004.
For additional information, see the Environment Canada website
(<http://www.ec.gc.ca/pcb/>).

Barriers/Challenges

Continue to be:

- **Lack of regulations requiring PCB reductions**
- **Need to implement incentives to achieve voluntary reductions**
- **Need improved communication with and involvement of stakeholders**

Upcoming Activities

- **Continue seeking PCB reduction commitments**
- **Continue outreach efforts**
- **Continue with “ Recognition & Award” program**
- **Continue PCB source emission studies**
- **Pursue New Initiatives (e.g. Incentives, ISO 14001, Insurance)**
- **Develop National Compliance Promotion/Workshop Strategy and use it for Canada’s New PCB Regulations**